

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Latin America

Vol VI No 078

23 April 1981

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GOVERNMENT CRISIS CONTINUES, CHANGES MADE

Government Comments on Banzer

PY221356 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text of communique released by the Presidential Press and Information Secretariat on 21 April 1981 in La Paz]

[Text] In view of the unwonted remarks made by retired Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, the Government of National Reconstruction of the armed forces states that Banzer's remarks seem to be the result of an act of defiance because his demands of personal nature were not fulfilled.

It is unfortunate that at a time when the nation is being threatened by maneuvers of extremism carrying out an ill-fated campaign against Bolivians due to the decisive action of the Government of National Reconstruction to eradicate and fight drug traffic, an effort is made to voice protest and criticism under the pretense of service to the country.

The people are aware that the large foreign debt as well as the consequences of the economic crisis the Bolivian people are now bearing are the result of inefficiency. Banzer, however, feels he can judge everyone else while forgetting his own faults and making evil judgments, judgments which reflect against him because the people obviously know how to judge and do have a memory. The remarks made by Banzer are subversive.

The government warns that it will respond to this awkward provocation with the enforcement of the law. His claims [words indistinct] are a typical example of political self-worship. The dignity and honor of the armed forces cannot be at the service of resentments or personal political ambitions.

Former Minister Arce Returns

PY230035 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2120 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Excerpts] La Paz 22 Apr (TELAM)--Col Luis Arce Gomez, up to 26 February 1981 considered the strongman of the military process that began on 27 July 1980, has returned to Bolivia from Buenos Aires on a commercial flight at a time when the country is involved in one of its most serious crises since the overthrow of former President Lidia Gueiler Tejada.

A report prior to his recent trip to Buenos Aires, which he visited for family reasons, had indicated that Arce would immediately travel to Taiwan.

Further Government Moves

PY230033 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2255 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 22 Apr (TELAM)--The virtual verbal war that had been declared at the beginning of the week between former President Hugo Banzer and the government is apparently continuing today, but at a much more reserved level.

Interior Minister Gen Celso Torrelio Villa during the past 24 hours paid a surprise visit to the city of Santa Cruz, the country's most important city after La Paz, where he contacted high-ranking military commanders and the department's civilian authorities in an open attempt to personally verify the situation in the region, which is currently the most unsettled in the country for the government due to its links with Banzer.

On the other hand, it is impossible to determine the whereabouts of the former president and president of the National Democratic Party, who was yesterday accused of being a subversive.

In this city, the seat of government, a strictly secret meeting of high military commanders took place last night at the Miraflores garrison. At the same time the unconfirmed military rumors were circulating to the effect that the possibility of creating the post of inspector general of the armed forces was being discussed at the level. This post would presumably be occupied by Gen Alberto Natusch Busch.

Some days ago, Natusch had been rumored as the possible army chief of staff after having reached an agreement with General Garcia Meza and with the top-ranking military leaders of the government over last weekend, when it was denied that he had been arrested for plotting against the government, as had been reported on Saturday.

Moreover, in Cochabamba, the country's third largest city and one of Bolivia's most important military centers, the prefect of the department, Col Romulo Mercado, warned that any individual who intends to disturb the country's calm will immediately be arrested by the security organizations [words indistinct] indicating that Banzer was interested in becoming commander in chief of Bolivia's armed forces.

During the evening, Torrelío met with the commander of the 8th Division, which is based in Santa Cruz, Col Gary Prado Salmon; with the prefect of the department, Oscar Roman Vaca; and with the mayor, Raul Lopez Bacigalupe, but no information was released regarding what had been discussed.

Meanwhile, the government leadership, after releasing a declaration last night in which it termed as subversive Banzer's statements, shut the doors to the press. It is continuing with its meetings in an apparent atmosphere of calm, but in which the contacts and consultations continue to develop intensely. Other power sectors are seeking to achieve a brilliant success in order to seek a basis for immediate support in view of the situation that the government is facing.

The signing of the renegotiation of Bolivia's foreign debt, which exceeds \$3 billion, and a successful result in the attempt at rapprochement with the United States, are the aspects that are considered as bases for saving the process.

Status of Natusch Under Review

PY230214 Paris AFP in Spanish 0009 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, Apr 22 (AFP)--The Bolivian military high command is studying a measure designed to eradicate nepotism in government by making all relatives of members of the armed forces holding public jobs resign or ask to be relieved, Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza said here today.

The president also states that changes of military commanders in various military units and institutions are taking place for operational reasons.

Garcia Meza indicated that the status of Gen Alberto Natusch Busch, who has rejoined the army, is being studied and that he will be apprised of his assignment in due time.

It has been recalled that General Natusch denied last Monday having been under arrest, as his closets relatives had claimed.

Deputy Minister Removed

PY230337 Paris AFP in Spanish 0101 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 22 Apr (AFP)--Bolivian Deputy Interior Minister Daniel Salamanca, who is believed to be the civilian figure closest to President Luis Garcia Meza, has been replaced by Victor Zanier, it was reported today in this capital.

Political analysts believe that Salamanca's removal could in some ways be related to some sort of compromise between Garcia Meza and former President Hugo Banzer Suarez, since Salamanca is known to have adopted some anti-Banzer attitudes.

Salamanca, who was education minister under the government of Rene Barrientos Ortuno (1964-69), has just published a book entitled "From Chaos to National Reconstruction."

His brother Hugo, who wrote the book "The New Man" (Garcia Meza), is at present the private secretary of the chief of state.

The former deputy interior minister performed the duties of the president's right hand man at the Interior Ministry; and thus it was he who introduced some political detainees over the national television service.

The new deputy interior minister, Victor Zanier, was a member of the Party of the Revolutionary Left (PIR) in his youth--just as Foreign Minister Mario Rolon Anaya. They both cooperated with the government of Barrientos, and today they propose the acceleration of the country's institutionalization process--an idea which is apparently shared by General Banzer Suarez.

For his part, Interior Minister Gen Celso Torrelío Villa today said he regarded himself as a servant of the law and noted that the current rulers should start to observe the laws.

He added that during the second stage of the new institutionalization process the military regime will enforce the law, the rights and guarantees of the human beings, both in public and private property and daily treatment. Although he pointed out that justice will not be delayed, he made it clear that disruptions of public order and violations of the law will be punished in accordance with the appropriate laws.

In a brief speech, Zanier said that he will help further the process of legal reorganization of the country. For his part, Salamanca stated that he will continue to defend the process of national reconstruction even at the cost of his own life.

President on Banzer, Natusch

PY230254 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0235 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] La Paz, 22 Apr (LATIN-REUTER)--Bolivian chief of state Luis Garcia Meza tonight denied the alleged severance of relations with former President Hugo Banzer Suarez but warned that should the latter "assume an attitude against the armed forces, something which I do not believe he will do, then there are military regulations and laws to establish the appropriate punishment."

General Garcia Meza spoke during an impromptu press conference which took place at Government House after a ceremony designed to express support for his government, staged by mineworker leaders.

The president reported that representatives of "extremist political parties" recently met in Lima, Peru and have "established the so-called Patriotic Liberation Front aimed at creating conditions favorable to a civil war."

He termed this attitude a "political onslaught" and added that this onslaught now comes from abroad and that the armed forces "are ready to repel any such activity."

He denied the possibility that Banzer could be involved in those conspiratory activities and indicated that "this government is the continuation" of Banzer's administration of 1971-78.

In response to a journalist's question, he said that "there can be no severance of relations between nationalist military officers."

General Garcia Meza reaffirmed that the Bolivian political parties are recessed and stated that "there is no political opening and we cannot make any exceptions," clearly hinting at the National Democratic Alliance Party which is headed by Banzer.

He reported that Gen Alberto Natusch Busch's future status within the armed forces has not been discussed because "he is still ill," and announced that "he has been given leave to go and get medical care."

He reaffirmed that there is complete unity within the armed forces.

PREMILITARY SERVICE BEGINS FOR STUDENTS

PY211621 La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 Apr 81

[Text] Complying with government decree No 18,144 of 20 March 1981, the National Defense Ministry has reintroduced preliminary technical civic service throughout the country. The service will be initiated progressively, starting with male students in the fourth year of secondary school, who will start serving this year. As of next year the service will be extended to all male and female students in the last 3 years of secondary school.

Enrollment will take place next Saturday, 25 April, throughout the national territory at enrollment centers set up at all schools in both urban and rural districts, according to the stipulations of enrollment instructions which have been distributed to all secondary schools.

Upon enrollment, students will be organized into preliminary units. Officers and noncommissioned officers from the army, air force and navy will be entrusted with premilitary instruction, which will take place on Saturdays from 0730 to 1230, beginning Saturday, 2 May, and until 24 October this year. As of 7 November this year, all students receiving premilitary instruction will go to instruction centers for a 4-month period to complete their military training.

After finishing this service, all students undergoing it will receive their military service booklet which will enable them to fulfill their rights as citizens.

BRIEFS

NEW AIR FORCE PLANES--La Paz, 9 Apr (AFP)--Gen Waldo Bernal Pereira, minister of aeronautics and member of the military junta, announced here today that the Bolivian Air Force (FAB) will soon purchase 20 Swiss-made Pilatus training aircraft. He also said that FAB is studying the purchase of supersonic aircraft with the purpose of modernizing its units and matching other Latin American air forces. He said that the purchase is aimed at guaranteeing peace, sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Bolivia. [Text][Paris AFP in Spanish 1531 GMT 9 Apr 81 PY]

FOREIGN RELATIONS SECRETARY OPENS OPANAL MEETING

FL221521 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2205 GMT 21 Apr 81

[By Leonardo Valadez Castillo]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 21 Apr (NOTIMEX)--Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Jorge Castaneda today inaugurated in this city the working sessions of the general conference of the Organization for the Proscription of Nuclear Arms in Latin America (OPANAL). Speaking to representatives of member countries and special observers and guests, Foreign Secretary Castaneda said: The world in general has returned to bellicose rhetoric and its political will to continue with disarmament negotiations has weakened considerably.

He added that in our area we see with deep concern that there is an attempt to again convert Latin America into a confrontation between conflicting blocs.

Jorge Castaneda reminded those present that the spirit of the Tlaltelolco treaty again acquires all its original force because we are convinced that our region must not be involved in a power play that has nothing to do with the real interests of the Latin American countries or with the values held by their peoples.

The foreign secretary expressed the Mexican Government's interest in the aims and principles that gave strength to the Tlaltelolco treaty 14 years ago. He also reaffirmed Mexico's support for OPANAL.

The representatives of Colombia, Dr Carlos German la Rotta, and of Ecuador, Dr Ricardo Martinez Cobos, were present in the hall where the inauguration took place. Others present included Jaime Alberto Lopez of El Salvador, Jorge A. Palmieri of Guatemala, Jean Simon of Haiti, Louis H. Boothe of Jamaica and the representatives of Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay, among others.

Jorge Castaneda emphasized that we must spare no effort to fulfill the aims of the Tlaltelolco treaty and OPANAL. He said if they were valid in 1962 when a nuclear free zone in Latin America was first conceived, today their recognition and application again acquire a sense of urgency.

Secretary General Interviewed

FL221950 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1921 GMT 22 Apr 81

[By Mariela Chazaro]

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Apr (NOTIMEX)--Hector Gros Spiel, secretary general of the Organization for the Proscription of Nuclear Arms in Latin America (OPANAL), has warned that the danger exists that Latin America may become a nuclear development center for belligerent aims. The OPANAL secretary general was interviewed during the first working day of the OPANAL regular meeting being held in the conference hall of the Foreign Secretariat. He said that a conventional war conducted beyond the will of the persons involved can be the prelude to a world war.

He explained that the situation in 1967 [as received], when the Soviet Union provided Cuba with missiles and other weapons, again has been raised at the present time. Therefore, he stressed, Latin America must not become a pawn in the chess game of the big powers.

Gros Spiel denied the possibility that an atomic bomb is being produced in Argentina, adding that atomic development in that country is being used for peaceful purposes. He emphasized that everything published in connection with an atomic bomb in Argentina is a lot of nonsense released by the news media, explaining that care must be taken with such reports.

COSTA RICAARMS SCHEDULED TO BE RETURNED TO PANAMA THIS WEEK

PA221915 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry has issued a communique announcing that in the next few hours, the Costa Rican Government will be returning to Panama the arms that this nation lent to Costa Rica in April 1979 when former Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza threatened to invade Costa Rica.

According to the communique, this decision has already been announced to the Panamanian foreign minister by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus.

According to the note, the Panamanian Government will send several planes to bring the arms, approximately 3,000 M-1 rifles, 100 machineguns, 200,000 rounds of ammunition and 4 antiaircraft machineguns.

According to a report with a Costa Rica dateline, the arms will be delivered by Costa Rican Public Security Minister Arnulfo Carmona in the presence of members of a commission investigating arms traffic and of two attorneys.

This information has not been officially confirmed in Panama, but according to the Costa Rican ambassador to our country, the arms could be returned sometime this week.

Carazo Explanation

PA222009 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Apr 81

[William Cespedes Chavarria report on exclusive interview with President Rodrigo Carazo]

[Text] President Rodrigo Carazo has discussed the government's decision to begin returning a large amount of weapons which were supplied to us during the war between 1978 and 1979 in Nicaragua to protect national security in light of the threats of invasion by then Nicaraguan dictator, the late Gen Anastasio Somoza. This is what President Carazo said:

[Begin recording] First, the weapons were lent to us about 2 years ago. Last year when the Legislative Assembly [words indistinct] a special committee to investigate the weapons, it seemed appropriate to keep them. We thought a report would be forthcoming rather speedily. Now two things have happened: The assembly or the committee wants an inventory of what Panama lent us and we are concerned that we have to return what was borrowed. [Words indistinct] what we returned last year and return what is still here. It is not logical to keep such weapons in a country such as ours. We are not facing an emergency.

I have given a lot of thought to this. At one point in time Costa Rica needed the Panamanian Government's assistance. We cannot leave the idea hanging that we will keep what is borrowed. We must return it so that, if at some time Costa Rica again needs assistance--let's hope not--we will find the doors as open as they were with the Panamanian and Venezuelan Governments in 1978 and 1979. We received weapons from Panama which were owned by the Panamanian Government and weapons from Venezuela. We still have not taken any steps toward returning the Venezuelan weapons. [end recording]

Deputies' Opposition

PA221557 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] The president and several ministers have told the deputies investigating gunrunning that they have never known the amount and type of weapons received during the Sandinist revolution.

Now that the executive branch has decided to return the weapons, the congressmen don't want it to be done until the Governments of Panama and Venezuela have reported on what was supplied during the war. [Deputy] Prieto Jimenez said last night that this is the only way to know if what is returned is what was given during the revolution.

Since the executive branch didn't know how many weapons were received from Panama and Venezuela, on 4 November Prieto Jimenez asked President Carazo to (?secure) all data from those governments. Now the investigating committee has sent a letter to the president asking for the same data before the weapons are returned.

[Deputy] Bolanos Alpizar has said this is another contradiction since one cannot return something without knowing what should be returned.

VICE PRESIDENT EXPLAINS FINANCIAL SECTOR CHANGES

PA221517 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] Jose Miguel Alfaro, second vice president of the republic, has made the following statement regarding the changes that took place in the economic and financial areas when Jorge Cespedes was placed in charge of the Economy, Industry and Commerce Ministry:

[Begin recording] Since 15 April the finance and economy sectors have been undergoing some adjustments in their functions in order to pay appropriate attention to the completion of arrangements for execution of the agreement with the IMF and in order to pay closer attention to overall coordination of the various sectors, which is also required to expedite government efforts in these fields.

For this reason, Jorge Cespedes, deputy economy, industry and commerce minister, is now in charge of the economy, industry and commerce portfolio while I am in charge of coordinating the economic sector as a whole and of supporting Finance Minister Carlos Munoz in regard to foreign financing arrangements, obviously giving priority attention to arrangements with the IMF. [end recording]

We have just heard Vice President Alfaro Rodriguez explaining the changes in the economic and financing sectors resulting from the economy minister's appointment.

COSTA RICANS, OTHERS ALLEGEDLY TRAINING IN CUBA

PA221934 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] A Salvadoran guerrilla has reported that groups of Costa Ricans are being trained in Cuba. Salvadoran guerrillas are being supplied with weapons from Russia and Nicaragua, he said.

Maj Luis Alvarado Saravia said [words indistinct] Costa Ricans are practicing guerrilla tactics and shooting. At least 1,000 are taking 4-month courses in Cuba. A military training school is operating in Cuba, according to the report.

Here is part of Alvarado Sarabia's report on Costa Rican participation in the guerrilla school operating in Cuba:

[Begin recording] This was camp No 27. There were 32 camps where only Salvadorans were receiving military training. In other camps, there were many Salvadorans too [words indistinct] 1,000 men were being trained in 32 camps to come fight the army here. I noticed that other country nationals such as Costa Ricans were also being trained there. Five Costa Ricans came to the camp where we were to receive training in shooting. They stayed for 15 days. Successive groups of 5, 10 or 15 Salvadorans came to receive shooting training.

We had been told not to go more than 50 meters from the camp. That was forbidden.

Once I escaped and went to another camp where there were about 70 men who were also receiving military training. These included Chileans of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, Costa Ricans, Colombians of the 19 April Movement and Guatemalans of the People's Revolutionary Army. Norma Guevara [words indistinct] come to visit us along with Mario Orlando Aguinada Carranza, but they never came. I don't know why but they didn't. However, other Cuban party members, such as Almeida, who I think is interior minister, did visit us in the camp. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

MILITARY INVESTIGATING REPORTS OF PIRATE PLANE

PA222343 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 22 Apr 81 p 1

[Excerpts] The armed forces are investigating the delivery of more weapons to the Salvadoran terrorists by a pirate airplane which was seen last weekend in the far eastern sector of the country.

On Sunday morning, we were informed that some persons had reported that the plane, a DC-4, had landed on a small hill. Military spokesmen denied this, saying that it is practically impossible for a plane of that type to land in such a place. We were told that a DC-4 needs a runway at least as long as Ilopango Airport (San Salvador) in order to land without problems.

The pirate or mercenary plane was reportedly seen near Usulután as it changed direction and headed south, toward the Pacific Ocean.

Our writers tried to have a military commander in the eastern sector confirm this report, but we were told that investigations were still underway and no official statement could be made.

FMLN RELEASES LIST OF 'MURDEROUS' ARMY OFFICERS

PA220420 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 21 Apr 81

[Text] Yesterday, Radio Venceremos broadcast a message from the National Army Military Youth read by Capt Francisco Emilio Mena Sandoval. In this message, he read a list of Salvadoran officers who will never be allowed to join the new army. Here at Radio Venceremos we have received the following letter from a mother who heard the Radio Venceremos broadcast:

Yesterday, I heard on our radio the list of high-ranking leaders of the murderers of our people including Abdul Gutierrez, Garcia, Robert d'Abuissón, Napoleon Medina Garay and many others.

People of El Salvador: We must remember the names of these murderers since they are directly responsible for the bloodshed of our children, men and women. I had five children, but two of them were killed by the murderers appearing on the list published by the military youth fighting beside our people.

My boys were 16 and 12 years old. At that time, we were not involved in any movement nor were we organized. But they compelled us to organize. They think that by killing our sons we will be frightened, but they are wrong because the people become aware that they must fight to prevent more hunger in the fatherland. I do not give my name for security reasons. [end of letter]

This is the Salvadoran people's reply to Duarte's killers. Because of the importance of this list presented by the compañeros of our military youth, Radio Venceremos repeats it in today's program. These officers will not be able to join the new army, the army made up of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front [FMLN] and of honest and patriotic soldiers.

The Salvadoran Military Youth presents the list of murderous officers: Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, Col Jose Guillermo Garcia, Col Nicolas Carranza, Col Sindulfo Adolfo Castillo, Col Rafael Florez Mena, Col Manuel Edmundo Palacios, Col Adolfo [name indistinct] Blandon, Col Jose [name indistinct] Rodriguez Mendivar, Col Mario Reyes Mena, Col Maximiliano Leibel, Col Francisco Hernan Pereira, Col Marco Aurelio Gonzalez, Col Alfredo Eusebio Tefel, Col Jaime Ernesto Florez, Col Eduardo Lopez Huila, Col Carlos Eugenio Vivez Casanova, Col Francisco Rene Suarez, Col Adolfo Napoleon Mendez, Col Sergio Tulio Figueroa, Col Jorge Alberto Rivera, Col Rene Ernesto Auerbach, Col Napoleon Alvarado.

Lt Col Dionisio Hernandez, Lt Col Francisco Tejada, Lt Col Ramon Antonio Morales Ruiz, Lt Col Elmer Gonzalez Araujo, Lt Col Alejandro Gonzalez, Lt Col Francisco Moran, Lt Col Roberto Santos, Lt Col Mauricio Daniel Vargas Casanova, Lt Col Rodolfo Revelo, Lt Col Salvador Mejia, Lt Col Rodolfo Giron Suarez, Lt Col Leopoldo Hernandez, Lt Col Angel Avilez, Lt Col Luis Alonzo Avelar.

Maj Rodolfo Campos Amaya, Maj Jorge Alberto Cruz, Maj Inocencio Hernando Manzano, Maj [name indistinct] Ernesto Vargas, Maj Rigoberto Soto Martinez, Maj Roberto Ostan, Maj Joaquin Zapata, Maj Orlando Cepeda, Maj [name indistinct] Olayo Candura, Maj Jose Roberto Santos, Maj Mario Denis Moran, Maj Juan Carlos Parrilla Ofuentes, Maj Hernan Arriaza, Maj Francisco Guin Fuentes, Maj Jesus Caceres Padilla, Maj Carlos Alfredo Rivas, Lt Col [name indistinct] Artemio Ansar Padilla, Maj Roberto Pinilla, Capt Julio Cesar, Maj Roberto d'Abuissou.

Capt Salvador Cesar Parranda, Capt Napoleon Medina, Capt Ricardo Tefel, Capt Arnaldo Majano Araujo, Capt Victor Hugo Villa Valencia, Capt Orlando Carranza, Capt Miguel Barja Gomez, Capt Rodolfo Arsenio Rivas, Capt Ricardo Arango Macay, Lt Isidro Lopez Cibrian.

The people of El Salvador and the world must see in this list of Salvadoran Army officers the persons really responsible for the tragedy affecting our people: the massacre of the civilian population, the repression of armed forces officers with progressive ideals and at the service of the people, the protection of members of the corrupt and murderous regimes of the past, the betrayal of their own institution and people in general. When they incur heavy debts for military equipment to be used against the people of the country suffering hunger and misery--these and many other deeds can be attributed to these persons, who wearing the uniform of our army, have stained our whole country with blood.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT, GUERRILLA COMBAT ACTIONS

Disruption in Suchitoto

PA222335 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 21 Apr 81 p 2

[Text] While armed forces counterinsurgency units continue to carry out cleanup operations in the Suchitoto region, residents of the city are being besieged by terrorists who have again destroyed the water pipelines. Suchitoto has reportedly been without water for the past 5 days and is being supplied by water trucks of the National Water and Sewer Administration [ANDA] and the armed forces.

Official sources have reported that this time the damage to the water pipes has had more effect because the distribution network was destroyed in several places outside Suchitoto. It was stated that the problem is more serious because when ANDA crews, protected by military patrols, attempt to make repairs, they are attacked by extremists hidden alongside neighborhood roads.

ANDA officials have informed residents of the city that the service may be restored within 4 days, but the townspeople doubt this, since the terrorist groups frequently raid the cantons in which the water supply lines are located. It was explained that it is easy to destroy these installations because the pipelines are visible in certain areas, and the extremists dynamite the support posts.

Elsewhere, it was reported that bus service between Suchitoto and San Salvador remains suspended, by decision of the bus company owners, to forestall dynamite and machinegun attacks. Only private vehicles like pickup trucks, trucks and microbuses are providing passenger service.

FMLN War Bulletin

PA230055 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, war bulletin No 99 issued on 20 April 1981 by the Information Section of the FMLN general headquarters]

[Text] The Information Section of the FMLN general headquarters informs its heroic fighters, the Salvadoran people and the other peoples of the world:

Report from the Ernesto Ramirez central front: In Las Vueltas Municipality in Chalatenango Department, a Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, commando unit ambushed a military patrol trying to penetrate territory controlled by our forces. The enemy suffered two casualties. No FMLN casualties were reported.

FMLN troops are strengthening their position day by day in Chalatenango and are continuing their slow but sure advance toward the south trying to reach the capital city.

Report from the Anastasio Aquino central front: FMLN forces ambushed a paramilitary patrol of the Death Squad and members of the Nationalist Democratic Organization, ORDEN, near San Vicente. We could not determine the number of casualties but according to our on-the-spot observations we could see that the enemy suffered many casualties.

In La Esperanza Canton in the same department, our forces surprised the local garrison, causing two casualties. We suffered no casualties.

An FMLN commando unit attacked the army garrison at the San Francisco sugar mill in San Vicente Department. Our forces withdrew in an orderly manner after the surprise attack. We could not determine the number of enemy casualties.

Report from the FMLN Francisco Sanchez eastern front: The enemy suffered three dead and three wounded in a clash with our forces in Cucuyo Canton, Jocoaitique, Morazan Department, near Matute Hill. The enemy patrol were all members of ORDEN and civilian reservists. The wounded were taken to the Gotera Hospital, where civilians are no longer being treated in order to save room for the numerous military casualties sustained daily throughout the country.

The advance of FMLN forces in Morazan Department has dealt a harsh blow to the army and clearly disproved its distorted propaganda. After 3 hours of fighting the FMLN captured Villa el Rosario, forcing the enemy to retreat from the area. One of our men was killed and three were wounded. We found two enemy soldiers among those wounded in the clash. We gave them the same medical attention that we would have given our own men. We captured eight enemy soldiers, who are being treated well because we respect the articles of war.

Yesterday, 19 April, in the El Salto Canton, 1 km from El Delirio on the coast highway at 1800 and 1900 FMLN squads ambushed two enemy military trucks carrying more than 70 national guardsmen. The FMLN squads destroyed one of the trucks and damaged the other. Guardsmen traveling in a bus reinforced the patrol and another clash ensued. The enemy suffered 20 dead and 10 wounded.

In (El Burbuyon), 1 km from El Bracho Canton in San Miguel, FMLN forces ambushed 23 guardsmen riding in a truck. The clash lasted between 10 and 15 minutes. The enemy suffered 10 casualties, dead or wounded.

In El Bracho Canton, an FMLN squad blocked the coast highway and held a political meeting with more than 300 people. They were called upon to support the FMLN struggle. The meeting lasted 2 hours and 45 minutes.

Another meeting was held in the town of (El Chairimayo) in San Miguel. The townspeople gathered in the market square where our forces discussed the war with them and with passers-by. They were asked to struggle against the dictatorship.

Near the town of [name indistinct] in Usulután Department, there was a clash between our troops and joint National Guard-puppet army forces. The number of enemy casualties could not be determined. The FMLN reports that two of our men were wounded in this operation. Their places were taken by two women from the town. This heroic deed took place in the midst of a violent shootout.

One of our scouting patrols in the southeastern front clashed yesterday with puppet army troops. We killed and wounded many. Due to the numerical superiority of the enemy, we decided on an orderly withdrawal. We suffered no casualties. According to enemy information sources, five civilians were killed in the crossfire. This clash took place near El Delirio on the coast highway.

Report from the Anastasio Aquino central front: Near the Cabanas area our heroic troops are maintaining their positions in the liberated areas, despite the enemy's hysterical claims that it has recovered positions that we captured since 10 January. Today a military spokesman told a foreign news agency that rebel forces had retaken positions in cantons near Villa Victoria about 100 km north of San Salvador. This was a roundabout way of accepting the truth. We were always in control of this area, and we will continue to be so with the help of the people. Our forces took the Santa Rosa de la Montana Canton in Sensuntepeque, the capital of Cabanas Department. The FMLN later decided to withdraw when 1,000 soldiers were deployed in the direction of Santa Rosa. This withdrawal shows the FMLN's ability and proves that it has an army that guarantees the people's advance toward victory.

Report from the Feliciano Ama western front: FMLN forces attacked the garrison at Guarnecia in Texistepeque Canton, Santa Ana Department. They overpowered the garrison and held political meetings. We collected cash, foodstuffs, clothing; and medicine from the villagers. Several enemy were killed and some civilians were wounded.

Report from the metropolitan area: The Soyapango powerplant in the capital city was sabotaged. The ensuring blackout lasted more than 2 hours. The FMLN scouts, who during the war have shown 100-percent efficiency, again fulfilled their mission. The blackout caused considerable losses.

A National Guard convoy was ambushed by guerrilla units in the city area. The enemy suffered many dead and wounded. Minutes later, Sergeant Duarte, mouthpiece of the military-Christian Democratic regime, spoke against the organized forces who are building the new society with their blood.

Unity in our struggle until final victory. Revolution or death, we will win. El Salvador, 20 April 1981.

Sensuntepeque Highway Clash

PA230326 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2328 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Leftist guerrillas and Salvadoran Army troops clashed this morning on the Sensuntepeque highway, Cabanas Department, 80 km from San Salvador.

According to an official spokesman, a large number of leftists were blocking the road with buses and other vehicles in an attempt to isolate the city of Sensuntepeque, the capital of Cabanas Department.

The source added that National Guard troops arrived as the leftists were engaging in those activities, whereupon the rebels detonated three claymore mines that they had placed in different parts of the highway.

The ensuing confrontation lasted from 0600 to 0700, but there were no casualties on either side or among civilians in the area.

VENEZUELA'S SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT PRAISED

PA230004 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1847 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Station editorial: "Support From Friendly Countries"]

[Text] Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has just made a clear and emphatic statement regarding the situation that has been produced in our country by guerrilla groups. Venezuela supports El Salvador, the president said, because it has the moral and political authority to censure any unhealthy attempt to use violence to block the path to peace.

As has been explained many times, our government has not provoked the violence in our country. The subversive rightist and leftist groups have created this climate of aggression, hatred and death. Frequent appeals have been made in vain for the dissidents to put down their arms and to accept the way of dialogue, by which satisfactory solutions are achieved through respect for the principles of representative democracy.

This call for dialogue has been always rejected because neither of the two factions has any interest in the people's well-being. Their only interest is in taking over the government regardless of the cost.

President Herrera Campins added that our moral, economic and political support for El Salvador is basically designed to help those who want an end of the fratricidal violence and the terrorism of the left and the right that besets the country.

The Venezuelan president then said: The true Salvadoran revolution consists of achieving the good of the people through democratic and peaceful means. This is the goal of President Jose Napoleon Duarte, whom I esteem, President Herrera Campins said, in view of his dedicated struggle for freedom, justice, democracy and peace in El Salvador.

The statement by the Venezuelan president constitutes a valuable stimulus to the efforts being made by the Salvadoran revolutionary government to bring peace to the country. This same aid, in the form of open moral, economic and political support, has been offered or has already been extended by several countries to neutralize the actions of those who are disrupting social stability.

The revolutionary government junta, with the support of friendly countries and the effective support of the Salvadoran people, will positively resolve the struggle that it is waging against subversion and terrorism, thereby making it possible for work and peace to again prevail throughout the national territory.

COFFEE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT

PA221804 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Apr 81 pp 2, 19

[Text] Spokesmen for the Association of Coffee Producers of El Salvador said yesterday that "El Salvador has failed to receive approximately \$300 million from coffee sales to the international market as a result of the hold-back policy the National Coffee Institute [INCAFE] has maintained since its creation."

The spokesmen noted: This means that the treasury failed to receive more than \$100 million in taxes and this has seriously harmed the country's economy.

The sources added: "The decision power that a small group has on foreign trade is the reason for this loss of millions that seriously affects the national coffee industry and puts 92 percent of the medium and small coffeegrowers in serious financial difficulties.

The spokesmen said that "as a result of INCAFE's hold-back policy, the country lost the opportunity to sell its 1979-80 harvest at an average price above \$200 [no weight measure given], an opportunity the other countries of the area seized since they simply continued a fluid and continuous sale to the foreign market.

"The countries that sold their 1979-80 coffee harvest at average prices above \$200 are Guatemala, Costa Rica and Mexico," they explained.

The sources emphasized: "This was the logical result of maintaining a continuous sale policy, which prevents any possibility of speculation in coffee marketing."

The spokesmen noted: "At this moment, the flow of sales is static and there is no outlook that prices will improve in the near future. We are already in the middle of April and INCAFE has not initiated domestic purchases."

They said that "the delay in paying for 50 percent of the 1980-81 harvest" represents a serious situation for the coffee industry and "results in heavy losses for the country's coffee producers because of the accumulation of interest to be paid."

Referring to the exoneration [from the obligation to deliver] of 292,541 sacks of coffee granted to El Salvador at the most recent meeting of the Council of the International Coffee Organization held in London, England, the coffeegrowers association said that "the country is forced to request this type of exoneration because sales abroad have been retained without consultation." They added: "Later, when the shortage of foreign currency exchange was noticed, the first quarter of the 1980-81 coffee year had to be dedicated to massive exportation of the remnants of the 1979-80 harvest."

The coffee producers concluded by stating: "It is necessary to market the coffee the way recommended by the IMF, that is, by maintaining a national, fluid and continuous sales flow, without speculating and without desperate massive sales. Internal prices should fluctuate with sales abroad so that the true producers may decide when to sell, thus securing a democratic and pluralist system in the marketing of coffee for the benefit of the country's economy."

FMLN'S CAYETANO CARPIO HITS U.S. INTERVENTION

For a Moscow Radio report on a SALPRESS interview with Cayetano Carpio, member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command, see page K 1 in the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 23 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO REDRESS NATIONAL ECONOMY

PA221456 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0038 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Government of Honduras today declared a "National emergency in basic grain production" and implemented a plan "to face the nation's current economic situation." The government plan is to be "implemented immediately and is intended to attenuate the most thorny problems."

The government says it has discovered several imbalances in the nation's economy, among these the balance of payments, the fiscal sector, a financial imbalance and an imbalance in the production sector.

To defend the balance of payments, the Honduran Government will modify the existing import tax system, reinforce its policy of support for exports and look into the possibility of attracting greater volumes of foreign resources.

Fernando Lardizabal, president of the Honduran Private Enterprise Council [COHEP], is against this part of the government's measures. According to Lardizabal, "modification of import taxes will result in a negative reaction by countries that have signed bilateral trade treaties with Honduras."

In order to remedy the fiscal imbalance, the Honduran state will improve the tax collecting systems, evasion controls and steps to reduce tax delinquency. "Within fiscal policy, the public sector's overall deficit must be kept at levels compatible with economic and social development, and in stable monetary condition," the government has ordered.

Regarding prices and marketing, the government has ordered the maintaining of prices of market-basket products and an evaluation of a decree that regulates the nation's price control system.

To increase the supply of farm and industrial products, the Honduran state will combat peasant invasions or other interventions in the areas of growing corn, beans, rice and sorghum until 1982. In addition, it has created a "farming policy commission that will draft, execute and evaluate all programs for the recovery of agro-industrial production."

To conserve energy, the government ordered such measures as the concentration of taxis at fixed points in the most important cities, the replacement of mass transit units with others of greater capacity and revision of the exemptions granted to various sectors on the payment of import and consumer taxes for petroleum byproducts. Likewise, the conservation of electric energy will be promoted in all social spheres as well as in different work shifts in the factories.

Special steps also have been taken to fight unemployment in the construction industry. The lack of bank liquidity and an immoderate hike in the cost of materials here caused a recession in the construction industry and more than 30,000 workers have lost their jobs since December. Now, the government has ordered the stepping up of all the necessary moves so that projects that have been budgeted and need guaranteed financing may get started as soon as possible.

In addition, the government will implement a monetary program and credit policy that will allow for more efficient controls on domestic credit.

As far as agrarian reform is concerned, a number of measures will immediately be implemented after the process has been evaluated.

The whole plan supports the government's intention to obtain long-range, low-interest refinancing with a lower national contribution. The external funding that is absolutely necessary to carry out the plan will be sought under these conditions.

Although it has been announced as an anti-inflationary plan, the package has not been presented as such, but as a palliative to the problems of the Honduran economy, "an aspirin for a huge pain that can only be cured through radical surgery," according to COHEP's president.

COHEP Objections to Plan

PA221908 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Interview with Fernando Lardizabal Guilbert, president of the Honduran Private Enterprise Council, COHEP, on 21 April 1981; place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Lardizabal] I have decree No 14 in my hands. I feel that this decree is everything but anti-inflationary. This will result in more inflation in the country.

When they speak of a 10-percent tariff on the CIF [cost, insurance and freight] value of all imported goods, we are automatically getting into trouble with the countries with which Honduras has bilateral trade agreements. I say this because these agreements already establish that the tariffs cannot exceed 20 percent. However, if you add 10 percent to this 20 percent, you'll have 30 percent, thus completely changing the bilateral treaties and new negotiations will have to be made because the countries which signed these agreements will disregard this measure.

[Question] Could this decree be described as unconstitutional?

[Answer] It is a matter of opinion. My opinion is that it is unconstitutional because according to the laws, the only branch entitled to create taxes is the Constituent Assembly. Therefore, the decree is unconstitutional. So any of the persons affected by these tariffs could file a writ before the Supreme Court. We believe that that writ would protect them in 100 percent of the cases. [end recording]

Regarding the effect of decree No 14 on the Honduran private enterprise the COHEP President said:

[Begin recording] The immediate damage that it will do is that it will increase the cost of living because when the price of raw materials go up, the finished products made in the country would then cost more and then the consumers have to pay more for them.

[Question] Did you question this decree before the president of the republic a few minutes ago?

[Answer] We questioned this decree and had the opportunity to meet with the president and his cabinet. We did question this but it seems that our objections had no value because the decree was approved anyway. We believe that this decree is only solving the fiscal problem to the government but it is not solving anything else for the country. It is only speeding up inflation.

[Question] Do you feel that the government is trying to finance the budget deficit with this measure?

[Answer] I believe that the existing budget deficit cannot be covered with it. As I said before, this is only a palliative. This decree must be accompanied by measures and one of the measures which the government does not want to implement is the reduction of public expenditures, that is, a cut in the country's budget.

[Question] You once said that this anti-inflationary plan did not even measure up to the grocery-store level. Do you stand by this statement?

[Answer] I said that these measures were made with the mentality of small grocery-store owners. This is what I said and I reiterate it because the gentlemen who drafted this decree forgot that this is like taking an aspirin when you have a bad toothache. The problem has not been solved. The problem existing in this country is that we don't want to admit that this country is broke and that these types of measures will not solve the problems.

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT COMMUNIQUE ON STRIKING SAILORS

PA221704 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Press communique issued by the Foreign Secretariat; no date given]

[Text] The government of the republic, through the Foreign Secretariat, is intervening to find a favorable solution to the problem of 150 Honduran sailors who are in Miami, Florida aboard a Panamanian flag ship owned by the (Carnival Cloys Line). The Honduran sailors decided to stop working because of internal problems and have remained aboard the ship since 20 April.

The Honduran Foreign Secretariat is holding talks with the company that owns the ship through the Honduran Consulate in Miami and with the Panamanian Labor Ministry so that justice can be done by recognizing the labor benefits of the sailors in the face of an imminent dismissal from their jobs.

The Government of Honduras hopes that all the parties involved in this labor conflict will find a favorable solution for the sailors in line with justice and based on the precedent of the recent experience of 40 sailors who were reinstated by the same firm on 9 April.

The authorities of the Honduran Labor and Social Welfare Ministry are also working on the solution of this problem.

SQUATTERS EXPELLED FROM LAND IN CHOLUTECA, VALLE

PA221737 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Guillermo Arias departmental news--live telephone relay]

[Text] Choluteca--Groups of peasants affiliated with the various organizations legally recognized in the country invaded various private lots in Choluteca and Valle Departments on Monday. In one of these invasions, one of the groups that was expelled from a settlement for reasons that were not explained by officials of the regional agrarian office invaded their own comrades' lots, establishing a new form.

According to reliable sources, a group affiliated with the Honduran Peasants National Association [ANACH] invaded land in Patinagua owned by the heirs of Albertina Espinoza Aranda. Another ANACH group invaded some land in San Francisco in San Marcos de Colon, which is owned by Carlos Rodriguez William. This group calls itself La Barranquilla. Another peasant group affiliated with the National Union of Peasants [UNT] invaded land owned by Antonio (Fidel) in El Rodeo, in San Marcos de Colon.

The Clear Waters group, another ANACH affiliate, invaded lands owned by Adalberto Amadis and Ignacio Ortiz in Agua Sarca in San Marcos de Colon. An independent peasant group whose members had been expelled from a settlement for unknown reasons decided to invade the land of their own comrades of La Pocalisita group affiliated with the UNT in Nataome, Valle Department.

After the field operations started, the landowners reported the invasions to the authorities of the National Agrarian Institute who requested the cooperation of the public security force and the 11th Infantry Battalion which, in a quick action, proceeded to peacefully evict the peasants without actions that would hurt their dignity. However, there are large pieces of land in Choluteca and Valle Departments which have been ceded in previous years to groups of peasants who have not done anything with them. Mr Fajardo of the Agrarian Institute said that the reasons for this will be explained in due time.

NICARAGUA

JUNTA MEMBER ORTEGA MEETS WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN

PA230305 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] We are making efforts now and we will continue to try to have good relations with the United States, relations based on respect and dignity. These were the first words said by Commander Daniel Ortega, who welcomed three U.S. congressmen on behalf of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. The congressmen arrived yesterday afternoon in Nicaragua. They are Michael D. Barnes, Thomas Eagleton and Christopher J. Dodd, the latter a senator from Connecticut.

Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the junta, took advantage of the occasion to denounce before the distinguished guests the economic aggression unleashed by the new U.S. Government as well as some U.S. military aggressions. For this reason, Commander Ortega pointed out, we have said and I am repeating that we are not going to accept any help with strings attached. Eagleton, who apparently heads the U.S. congressional delegation, said that he voted against the aid to Nicaragua last year, but that he has come to our country to see if he should change his attitude toward the Sandinist government. After mentioning all U.S. interventions in our country, Commander Ortega stressed the fact that there has been a revolution in Nicaragua by a people who, as a result of these interventions, have built up a hatred and loathing against the United States. We are anti-imperialist not because we have been told and advised to be anti-imperialist, but because we have been the victims of U.S. interventions, Commander Ortega pointed out.

In relation to Cuba, Commander Ortega said, we sympathize with the Cuban revolution and we are friends with Castro because the Cubans were the only ones who supported the anti-Somozist struggle while the United States backed the tyrant. Besides, he added, Cuba has given us support without conditions, while the United States tried to impose conditions from the beginning. It is hard for you to understand that a small country can be independent or can want to be independent, Commander Ortega said. The reason for the many mistakes made by the United States and the reason for the opposition to its policy is that the United States cannot accept the reality of Latin America from a Latin American point of view. This is the problem Ortega said. Furthermore, he said, we have the same determination as the U.S. patriots who fought against England for their independence.

It is good for you to know all this and to let the people in the United States know how we feel about to all the damage done to us by your past governments and the damage which continues to be done. This does not mean that the opportunity for establishing new relations between our country and your government no longer exist, Ortega assured. We have the will to struggle for what we believe because we are of the opinion that only in this way can we contribute to peace in Central America and the rest of the world.

Also present at the meeting held last night at the government house, were Sergio Ramirez Mercado and Rafael Cordova Rivas. The meeting which ended a little after 2000 was termed by political observers as constructive, very frank, and one that could help improve relations between the two governments.

SOVIET ENVOY ANNOUNCES WHEAT DONATION AT CEREMONY

PA230429 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] The sincerity and greatness of the revolutionary friendship between the USSR and free Nicaragua today yielded its first fruits: the donation of 20,000 tons of wheat.

On the day when Nicaraguans joined with the world to commemorate the 111th anniversary of the father of the world proletariat, Lenin, an event took place which expresses the sincerity and greatness of the revolutionary friendship between the Soviet Union and free Nicaragua.

The donation was announced this afternoon before the National Reconstruction Government junta by Soviet Ambassador German Shlyapnikov. It consists of 20,000 tons of wheat so that our people can enjoy bread with dignity. We say bread with dignity because this important donation by the Soviet Union is not tied to any condition whatsoever.

The wheat, according to Ambassador Shlyapnikov, will be at Corinto Port early in May, putting an end to a crisis caused by U.S. imperialism, which suspended a \$9 million credit for the purchase of wheat by the Nicaraguan revolutionary government.

The following is the statement by the Soviet ambassador to the governing junta as he announced his government's decision to make this important donation:

[Begin recording] It is an honor and a pleasure for me to tell you, honorable comrade members of the National Reconstruction Government junta, that the Government of the USSR, conforming to the request of the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, has decided to donate 20,000 tons of wheat to Nicaragua. The wheat will arrive at Corinto Port.

As ambassador, I want to tell you that this decision of the Soviet Government once again reflects the solidarity of the Soviet people with the sister nation of Nicaragua which presently faces a shortage of wheat, created by well-known international circles. It is another expression of the friendly relations existing between our two countries and governments. Thank you for your attention. [end recording]

OPPOSITIONISTS AGREE TO DISCUSS 24 APRIL MEETING WITH FSLN

PA230100 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] The leaders of the traditional political parties have agreed to hold a dialogue with the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate. The leaders of the Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, the Social Democratic Party, the Democratic Conservative Party and the Constitutionalist Liberal Movement met last night and agreed to accept the FSLN National Directorate's invitation for talks on unity as a way to achieve the people's welfare, economic development and peace among Nicaraguans.

Here is what Jose Davila, Social Christian Party international relations secretary, told us about last night's meeting:

[Begin recording] [Davila] The Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, the Social Democratic Party, the Democratic Conservative Party and the Constitutionalist Liberal Movement met last night and we fully assessed the country's situation as well as the FSLN National Directorate's letter agreeing to meet with us on Friday at the Ricardo Morales Aviles House. After we analyzed the letter, and placing the nation's interests above those of our parties, all five parties agreed to attend the meeting on Friday, 24 April, with the FSLN directorate to discuss the country's problems and crisis.

[Question] Why did the Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement and the other parties, initially not want to hold a meeting or accept the FSLN's invitation?

[Answer] We leaders of the democratic parties have always considered a dialogue to be important, but we noticed that it was the FSLN which was postponing the date of the meeting. Finally, we agreed to have it on Friday, 24 April. I also want to mention the fact that we had proposed Monday, 13 April, as the meeting date but the FSLN did not accept that proposal because it was launching the letter of dignity campaign. Afterwards, we suggested two new dates, Wednesday, 22 April, and Friday, 24 April. The FSLN directorate accepted the latter date. We are going to hold a dialogue with the FSLN National Directorate because we think it is important to do so considering the country's situation. [end recording]

BRIEFS

DEVELOPMENT BANK LOANS--The National Development Bank of Nicaragua reported that its branches in Esteli, Condega, La Trinidad, Pueblo Nuevo and San Juan de Limay as of 31 December 1980 had granted loans in the amount of 63 million cordobas to farmers and approximately 5 million cordobas to small industries and businesses. [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 1 Apr 81 p 6 PA]

WPC ENDS PRESIDENTIAL MEETING IN HAVANA

FL212146 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish at 2508 GMT on 21 April carries live color coverage of the closing session of the WPC presidential meeting held at Havana's Palace of Conventions.

Coverage begins with television staff announcer Manolo Ortega stating that Fidel Castro, Romesh Chandra and other--unnamed--Cuban and WPC officials are present at the ceremony.

The first to speak is WPC President Romesh Chandra at 2100 GMT. He says that the WPC presidential meeting has concluded successfully and all documents have been unanimously approved, and highlights the fact that the meeting took place in socialist Cuba. He expresses full solidarity with Cuba and adds that all member countries of WPC will struggle in behalf of Cuba. He also calls Fidel Castro a man of peace. Chandra stresses the importance of nations exercising their right to stop nuclear war and not join in imperialist war policies. He says the WPC does not view this task with complacency or emotionally but the council knows of the strength of the peoples. The WPC fully supports all initiatives of peace-loving forces to put an end to the arms race and help liberation, Chandra says, adding: Imperialism is trying to divide these forces but the WPC replies: We shall not divide; we shall become strong to stop nuclear world and to build a new world of peace and independence for all nations. He elaborates on these themes and offers solidarity to all nations, especially Latin American ones, with particular emphasis on El Salvador so that the United States will not intervene in that country. Chandra says the WPC is with Nicaragua, Guatemala, Puerto Rico and Grenada, Chile, Paraguay, Haiti, Panama and others. He concludes by thanking Cuba and all those involved in making this historic WPC meeting a success, with special mention for Fidel Castro and the spirit of Playa Giron. Chandra ends his speech at 2128.

At this point, Cuban pioneers march into the hall bearing flags and golden trumpets. A pioneer girl sings a song about children and freedom and then presents a flower to Fidel Castro, who kisses her. Other children present flowers to the other officials at the presidential table. Other children come in with more red, white and blue flags, followed by ballet dancers, who perform. Another pioneer girl reads a proclamation to peace and of greetings from the children of Cuba to the WPC delegates. While a children's choir sings, children dressed in national costumes have flowers and balloons.

Announcer Ortega then introduces Fidel Castro, who begins speaking at 2143 GMT.

Fidel Castro Speech

FL220135 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2143 GMT 21 Apr 81

[Speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro closing the WPC presidential committee meeting at Havana's Palace of Conventions--live]

[Text] Dear comrades, our fatherland feels enormous pride in hosting this meeting of the WPC presidential committee. We highly appraise the value of this gesture of friendship and solidarity toward Cuba. We are particularly glad to once again welcome to Cuban soil this active, tireless and tenacious fighter of world renown, our dear comrade and friend Romesh Chandra. [applause]

In our opinion, this meeting is notable for its timeliness and its organizers' good judgment in choosing the Central American and Caribbean area to hold the meeting. It can be said that since the days of the so-called October 1962 crisis, the human race had never had more reason to feel so worried, threatened and uneasy about the danger of war. Then, more than 18 years ago, it was the U.S. imperialist policies which led the world to the imminent danger of a nuclear confrontation.

It must be recalled that the U.S. Government created this huge risk in its anxiety to get even for the crushing defeat of the Playa Giron mercenary invasion and as a conceited and arrogant reaction to the legitimate measures adopted by the revolution to defend the country's integrity and sovereignty.

The world was able then to stop just short of the abyss. Cuba's invulnerable position demonstrated that our people could not be intimidated or subjugated by any means. International solidarity, especially the serene policies of the Soviet Union, made it possible to preserve peace and eased tensions in the most dangerous moments. Mankind breathed more easily after going through that hair-raising experience which revealed the folly of the imperialist policies of Cold War and international blackmail.

Following the October crisis, the road to detente began to unfold despite many obstacles. The Soviet Union, vitally bound to the interests of the socialist community and the world's revolutionary, liberation and progressive movement, once again played the most active and decisive role in the struggle for an international atmosphere based on mutual trust, the development of normal relations and even mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technical cooperation as the basis for detente in the military sphere, a limitation of the arms race and, subsequently, the measures that would make disarmament possible. As we know, no progress was made beyond detente in political affairs. The signing of the Helsinki accord was the highest level reached. Since then, especially in the past few years, the ultrareactionary forces of the United States, entrenched in their positions, succeeded in sabotaging and paralyzing detente. And today they are trying to reverse the course of this process to decontaminate the international atmosphere. The way in which these power groups attempt to play with the survival of the human race is absolutely criminal and irresponsible.

If in 1962 there were more than enough megatons in the arsenals to obliterate the last trace of life on earth, today the number, power and effectiveness of strategic arms systems have multiplied in a chilling way. The frontiers of terror have been long crossed and no new method of mass destruction that might be added today could instill more dread in the hearts of its presumed victims. The human race can only be exterminated once. No sensible person doubts that the outcome of a nuclear war, under the present circumstances, would be equally cruel to aggressors and victims, to warmongers and neutrals, to atomic powers and all the nations that do not possess these arms.

There is even the risk that technical failure, a subjective mistake or simple carelessness might precipitate a reaction of catastrophic consequences. The peoples of the world who confront so many dramatic problems face the danger of being wiped out by accidental factors. Tens of thousands of atomic weapons hang over their heads. Never in its thousands of years of existence had humanity experienced such a thing. That is why the struggle to halt a new world war becomes the most pressing, unavoidable and decisive task of our times.

We are not and never will be fatalists. We do not accept nor will ever accept the notion that a world holocaust is inevitable. The human race must have a nobler fate. The selfish and exploitative interests of a small imperialist minority cannot make use at will of the fruits of the whole history of civilization and dictate the fate of peoples. Man's intelligence faces enormous challenges and peace by itself is not the solution to all problems. Peace is only the basic condition for the huge abundance of energy and necessary resources to be employed in a consistent manner so that all mankind, not just part of it, may live honorable, decently and decorously. Peace is an indispensable requirement in the great battle against underdevelopment, disease, illiteracy, lack of housing and the growing shortage of foodstuffs, raw materials, energy and water, which are already acute problems for hundreds of millions of souls in the poorest areas of the world.

One cannot close one's eyes to the obvious danger of war implicit in the actions of the most aggressive and dangerous elements of imperialism. It is known that the lengthy negotiations of more than 7 years which brought about the SALT II treaty--now ignored by unilateral decision of the United States--were based on the recognition of a military balance. Any attempt to upset that balance is extremely dangerous and could result in fatal consequences.

The U.S. military budget is now close to \$150 billion a year. Despite this, the new administration proposes a sustained increase in these expenditures in coming years that could reach by 1985 the incredible amount of \$330 billion for belligerent purposes. Such a decision can only drag the world into a new and unbearable spiral of the arms race at precisely the time when the worldwide needs for development cooperation and assistance are most dramatic and urgent. This new burden, as usual, would fall on the shoulders of workers and of the poorest countries.

The mirage of reducing in short term the effects of the economic crisis by military spending can only make stagnant production, inflation, unemployment and chaos even more serious and irreversible. It should not be forgotten what the exorbitant and unproductive spending on the war of aggression against Vietnam led to.

Moreover, the socialist world will not submit to the threat. The most elemental sense of responsibility forces socialism to preserve its conquests, integrity and basic conditions for world peace at any cost, even at the sacrifice of huge resources that might help in its own development and cooperation with other countries. The situation is so serious that no alternative is possible. If today worldwide military expenditures amount to some 500 billion a year, if today these expenditures constitute an unbearable, criminal and absurd burden, we have the right to ask ourselves the disturbing question: How far can the present policies of Yankee imperialism take us and what can be the consequences of those adventurist and irresponsible policies?

The United States surrounds the Soviet Union and other revolutionary countries with 2,500 military bases and installations on the soil of tens of countries. It keeps more than 500,000 soldiers and thousands of nuclear missiles aggressively deployed all over the world. As you well know, even Cuba has to bear against its will that part of its national territory which continues to be occupied by a naval base with Yankee military troops and installations.

In Europe, the United States forces its NATO allies into an accelerated growth of their military expenditures. It tries to reduce resistance to its aggressive policies and imposes on them the installation of qualitatively new strategic arms. The decision stands to set up 572 medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe aimed at the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. Orders for Pershing II and so-called cruise missiles to augment the atomic arsenal in Western Europe reach several billions of U.S. dollars. This is much more than the national income for an entire year of several countries combined.

But the United States is not only turning Europe into a powderkeg. In the East, it tries to drag Japan into the arms race and an aggressive strategic alliance against the Soviet Union, counting on the Chinese as an ally for a confrontation with the USSR and against the liberation movement in Asia. China in turn, with the approval of the United States, carries out unceasing aggressions against Vietnam, doubles pressures on Laos and encourages counterrevolutionary bands and the hostility of neighboring governments against the people of Kampuchea. In light of these realities, we can understand how urgent it is that work be carried out following specific programs that will make it possible to save the road already traversed in search of peace and halt the dangerous trends in the current international situation. The serene and constructive stand of the Soviet Union despite the provocations and threats of the United States is once more demonstrated in the peace proposals formulated by distinguished Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the 26th congress of the CPSU. These proposals have been favorably received by world opinion. Fortunately, the Soviet Union knows how to maintain serenity and does not falter in its struggle for the noble cause of peace.

The situation created by imperialism in the Middle East is an explosive one. It cannot be denied that Israel feels encouraged by the guarantees it receives from Washington in its recent aggressions against southern Lebanon, where hundreds of persons were murdered. At the same time, the dubious deal between the Yankees and the As-Sadat regime in Egypt and the delivery of billions of dollars in arms to that reactionary government disclose the essence of the betrayal and crime perpetrated against the interests of the Palestinian people and other Arab countries which are the victims of Zionist plunder.

Threats of aggression are voiced against Syria, Libya and other anti-imperialist Arab governments. Using the deplorable conflict between Iran and Iraq as a pretext, the U.S. imperialists carry on with their plan to set up their so-called Rapid Deployment Force in the Middle East and multiply their military and naval presence and their bases of operation in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The fact that the largest petroleum reserves in the capitalist world are found in the Middle East gives a special aggressiveness to imperialist actions in this area.

Like Israel, the fascists of South Africa are encouraged by the new U.S. administration. A shady maneuver by several Western powers is underway to try to foil Namibia's right to independence and to dismiss the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people--SWAPO. Provocations against the frontline countries continue to increase. Mozambique is continuously facing hostile actions. Independent Zimbabwe is threatened. There are reports about large concentrations of South African troops in the northern part of the occupied territory of Namibia and the imminence of a large-scale racist attack against the southern part of the People's Republic of Angola.

The economic and technological ties linking U.S. imperialist corporations and other Western countries to the Pretoria racists are constantly becoming known, ties which are in flagrant contempt of all UN agreements. Among other aspects, these relations include the program of South African nuclear development which will make it possible for that country to produce its own nuclear weapons if it has not already achieved this. Who are the ones guilty of allowing such a threat of extermination to be raised against Africa's independent peoples? Who are the ones supporting at any risk a regime which is an insult to mankind's civilized consciousness? Are they not the same ones which have transformed Somalia and other countries into aggressive bases directly threatening the revolutions of Ethiopia and democratic Yemen?

This meeting of the WPC Presidency has laid stress on Latin America's situation and, particularly, that of Central America and the Caribbean. We must refer to them. A few months ago, during the second PCC congress, it was noted that while in other areas of the world the United States had been forced to take into consideration the real factors of the situation, the undeniable might of socialism and the caution being observed by its own allies, in Latin America, however, the imperialists had considered themselves to be free to do as they pleased in undertaking actions and moving forward their reactionary policy. The time elapsed since then has demonstrated this truth.

The heroic and determined struggle of the people of El Salvador has urgently stirred up the greatest concerns of the new U.S. administration. As usual, the crudest pretexts have been used. An attempt has been made to make the world believe that the fight of that people--in just 15 months the army and the tyranny's repressive groups have murdered more than 15,000 persons--was the product of an international plot. To make such an assertion is the same as ignoring the fact that the Salvadoran people have been struggling for the past 50 years for their liberation. It is the same as ignoring the situation of terrible poverty, ignorance and ferocious exploitation in which a very small and insatiable oligarchy maintains that country. It is the same as disregarding the fact that the men and women of that small nation, including old people and children, are forced to defend their own survival against a genocidal regime which literally wipes out entire towns and carries out insane massacres.

Despite world public opinion, the United States is sending massive quantities of arms and military personnel to advise and assist in the repression and terror. It has been officially announced that the U.S. aid to the fascist Christian Democratic junta since the beginning of the year will be doubled during the rest of the year.

Against heroic Nicaragua and its glorious Sandinist revolution, which today are enmeshed in the arduous and complex tasks of national reconstruction, imperialism has also directed the aggressive course of imperialism. The fact that such a big and powerful state as the United States applies economic reprisals against the Nicaraguan people and attempts to make them surrender through hunger by suppressing credits for essential foodstuffs provokes indignation. Hundreds of Somoza followers and mercenaries are currently training on U.S. territory to invade Nicaragua, and the U.S. Government does not even admit any knowledge of what is going on.

It is equally inconceivable that the organization, training, arms supply and financing of numerous camps of counterrevolutionary agents existing in Honduras close to the border with Nicaragua can take place without the intervention of the CIA and the Washington administration. Every attempt to drown in blood the Nicaraguan revolution is a threat to peace and a challenge to the world democratic and progressive movement.

In the same category can be included the attempts to destabilize Grenada's revolutionary government, which is characterized by its unwavering and unequivocally progressive and anti-imperialist position. The Guatemalan people are bravely struggling for liberty. More than 70,000 patriots of that country have been murdered since the mercenary invasion organized by the CIA and the United Fruit Company in 1954. Today the people's struggle is growing, as is repression. But the brutal regime, which is drowning that country in blood, is one of the friendly governments which should not be harassed. Its henchmen, as in Haiti, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and other reactionary governments, receive from their protectors large quantities of arms and resources in order to maintain themselves in power.

The U.S. Government has created a special Caribbean command. Aggressive maneuvers are taking place in the seas near our coastline. The United States is conducting an essentially militaristic policy in this region. What is the sense of that arrogant and threatening language of arms? Simply, it is an attempt to intimidate the struggling peoples and, above all, to frighten, isolate and impose a policy of pressure and blackmail against Cuba.

Our country, as is well known to all, has endured a rigorous and total economic blockage for 20 years. Added to the blood spilled through armed aggressions, piratic attacks, sabotage and other subversive acts, which have been carried out by imperialism against our country, one must mention such criminal actions as stopping Cuba from acquiring in the United States medicines for saving lives. The imperialists do not resign themselves to the policy or principles of our people.

Recently, the voices demanding that Cuba be erased from the political map of this continent have taken on new life. The media campaigns have attempted to generate an anti-Cuban climate of extreme hostility. There are reports of plans for a military blockade or other actions, including the possibility of direct military aggression. Cuba does not threaten the United States. In the face of threats, Cuba is maintaining a calm and responsible attitude, but a firm one. We struggle for the right to a peaceful life for our people--to the degree that we increasingly become stronger and more invulnerable to any enemy aggression; to the degree that we make each compatriot a Spartan soldier ready and willing to defend our fatherland's sovereignty and integrity to the last drop of blood. [applause]

Imperialism's meddling policy transforms the Central American and Caribbean area into an explosive focus of tension, similar to those of the Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean, the Middle East and Europe. But the warmongers and interventionists are not the only conspirators against peace. The huge arms arsenals are not alone in threatening peace. Peace is also threatened by the extraordinary and complex problems that imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism have created around the world. As we have previously stated at other opportunities, without development and, at the very least, justice for the peoples, there can be no peace.

In today's world, an urgent period of international cooperation on a large scale must begin if we really want to raise the level of living of the peoples, remove a large part of mankind from underdevelopment and safeguard international peace. The true fact, however, is that all just and prudent initiatives which have been promoted by our countries inexorably clash against the selfish, or frankly sabotaging, attitude of the principal capitalist superpowers. Added to the colossal waste that the arms race represents is the fact that the hard reality for development barely amounts to 5 percent of world resources devoted to systems of extermination.

Meanwhile, the poorer areas of the earth experience a rapid multiplication in population and no one knows where the foodstuffs, clothing, housing, education, health services and new sources of employment will come from for the gigantic human wave due to arrive in the next few years. If today the earth is populated by more than 4 billion persons, by the end of the century it will be closer to 7 billion and will double in the next few decades.

The foreign debt of underdeveloped countries is estimated today to be more than \$500 billion. Every year the balance of payments deficit of these countries worsens. Unequal trade and the high cost of energy are virtually liquidating the economies of the poorer countries. A large number of them, above all those importing oil, have to devote a large portion of their meager resources for debt servicing.

Meanwhile, during the period 1970-78, the transnational enterprises reported a profit of \$2.4 for every dollar invested in underdeveloped countries, and the United States, particularly, obtained in that same period \$4.5 for every dollar invested in the backward economies of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In the United States itself, and other highly industrialized capitalist countries, the working masses are victims of the economic crisis and the arms race. In those countries, unemployment currently remains at the highest levels of the postwar era. In the United States alone more than 8 million persons wander around looking for jobs, and from 20 to 25 million poor U.S. citizens will experience some bad situations because of this year's unpopular warmongering budget, which is also a direct threat against peace.

We believe that without an extraordinary, determined and responsible effort on a world-wide basis, there can be no solution to the worrisome problems harming our peoples and peace will be in jeopardy. Without real cooperation, without a real and tangible new international economic order whose results reach out to all and benefit all, beginning with those who need it most, the peace we seek will be an unreachable mirage.

We do not accept the idea of the inevitability of war. We measure the dangers calmly, without being dragged into pessimism. By nature, revolutionaries are optimistic. However, we do not believe in spontaneity. We believe that peace, detente and civilized coexistence between states must be gained with our struggle and strength. Socialism does not need war. Socialism came into this world with the decree on peace as a banner. Arms are only the resources imposed upon us by the need to defend ourselves in the face of the threats and aggressions of the enemy. The glories which our people seek are those of creative work. We will know how to struggle for them.

The imperialists and warmongers can no longer decide as they please the future of the world. They have to take into consideration socialism's might. They have to take into consideration the strength of the world revolutionary movement. They have to take into consideration the firm position of peace of the countries forming the Nonaligned Movement, which certainly form the absolute majority of the international community. They have to take into consideration the vast and growing universal movement in defense of peace, in which all of mankind's vigilant awareness is expressed.

The WPC embodies the desire of the broadest international social sectors to unite and avoid a new war. Its history of more than 32 years of hard and selfless work makes it worthy of our confidence and determined support. If never before have the dangers been so great, also never before has our strength been so great.

Dear comrades and friends of the WPC: You convey to us with this meeting the certainty that the future of peoples, no matter how many tests await us in the future, entirely belongs to freedom, justice and peace. Fatherland or death, we shall win! [prolonged applause]

WPC Final Resolution

FL221614 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] The WPC presidential meeting which held its working sessions at the Palace of Conventions has unanimously approved a resolution dealing with a world campaign and common actions against the threat of war and arms race and in favor of disarmament and international detente.

The document points out that during the meeting the new and serious dangers being faced by the world due to the arms escalation undertaken by the present U.S. administration and its threats against the security and independence of the peoples had been examined. It adds that confidence and self-assurance had been gained with the unprecedented development of the peace forces throughout the world, which are incorporating into the struggle millions of persons who have realized the danger and the need for action.

The document approved by the meeting of the WPC Presidency condemns such actions as the pressure being exerted by the United States on its NATO allies to introduce in Europe new and more dangerous nuclear arms and the deployment of a large number of U.S. armed forces in the Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean, the Indochinese region and the peninsula of Korea. It also condemns the support being given by the United States to South Africa in its war against Namibia and the counterrevolutionary forces in Angola, Mozambique and other places.

The document also points out some of the new optimistic possibilities, such as the Soviet Union's proposal to freeze the number of the intermediate level nuclear missiles in Europe as a step toward disarmament.

On another subject, the WPC Presidency meeting unanimously approved in its last session another resolution on the struggle of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples for a real economic and political independence, for peace and against the escalation of the arms race. The document states that even though the continent possesses huge amounts of wealth and natural resources, the majority of its peoples suffer from the most dramatic situation of poverty, unsanitary conditions, exploitation and illiteracy.

The document goes on to say that the Cuban revolution's triumph unequivocally demonstrated the possibility of freeing peoples from imperialist domination, making a reality their just aspirations. This was confirmed with the revolutionary triumphs in Nicaragua and Grenada which put an end to the criminal dictatorships oppressing their respective countries. The resolution also charges that as a part of the U.S. imperialists' threatening policy, the Cuban revolution is still being subjected to a criminal blockade, to the violation of its airspace by spy planes and to the usurpation of part of its territory by a Yankee naval base.

The document also condemns the inhumane domination being exerted by imperialism and its accomplices over the majority of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples. Likewise, it expresses solidarity with the revolutions of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, and warns about the plans of U.S. imperialism to directly intervene in El Salvador to try to impede the people's triumph. Finally, it calls on the sons of the great Latin American fatherland to redouble their struggles against the growing threats of war generated by imperialism and to continue the determined battle for a true national independence.

Romesh Chandra Closing Speech

FL221803 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 2055 GMT 21 Apr 81

[Speech by WPC President Romesh Chandra at the closing session of the WPC Presidency meeting held at Havana's Palace of Conventions; in English with simultaneous Spanish translation--l've]

[Excerpts] Dear Commander in Chief Comrade Fidel Castro, dear PCC Central Committee Politburo members, members of the Cuban Government, members of the diplomatic corps and participants in the meeting of the WPC Presidency, dear friends, dear people of Cuba: Permit me to report to you that the meeting of the Presidency of the World Peace Council has concluded and has done this with great success. All the resolutions, documents and appeals were unanimously approved by all members and participants in the meeting. [applause]

Let me add that throughout the 3 days of our meeting we could feel in the discussions, speeches and debates and dialogues one fact above all, and that was this: We were meeting in socialist Cuba with the support of all the people of Cuba.

Millions of people of Cuba were watching our work and we had a duty and responsibility toward them. Our resolutions were of great significance. First of all, let me tell you that we have adopted a special appeal for solidarity with the government and people of Cuba. We have unanimously declared our firm resolve that in each country of the world which we represent we will intensify our actions of support and solidarity with Cuba.

During all this time we have been inspired by this slogan: that Cuba struggles for the world and, therefore, the world must fight for Cuba today, tomorrow and always. [applause] We have been honored and privileged to be here on the 20th anniversary of the great victory of Playa Giron. Let me say here to the commander in chief, our comrade and friend, a man of peace, to Fidel, that we carry with us to every part of the world the spirit of Playa Giron of 20 years ago, the spirit of today's Cuba, of firm resolve in the struggle for peace and independence and sovereignty, for Cuba and for the whole world. [applause]

Out of every country represented in this meeting, out of every continent, came news of mass movements, news of mass campaigns organized at the initiative of various very different political and social organizations, which at times differ on certain matters but which are united in the belief that today the peoples have the power to avoid a nuclear war and that that power must be exercised. We have at this moment news of plans for great demonstrations in Washington on 3 May. We have received news of great demonstrations in Bonn, Stockholm, Helsinki, Paris, in all parts of the world, in Africa, in Latin America, in Asia, in socialist countries, great marches of the people, marches of the people which say a simple thing: The peoples of the world reject the path to war. They refuse to participate in war preparations by imperialism, in the imperialist arms race and in the attacks of imperialism against the sovereignty and independence of the countries. Repeatedly, we have heard news of this growing movement, heard of the concern of peoples. We have heard of the concern in the face of a threat of war.

What really overshadows this danger is the determination of all peoples in all parts of the world and the conviction and certainty that they have increasingly got at this time the power to stop the plans for a nuclear war, to stop imperialism's aggression and intervention anywhere. We do not look at this task with complacency, or simply with emotion, or simply with rhetoric. We have examined this task with great care. We have seen the difficulties generated by the power used for the purpose of destroying the world. But we have evaluated very carefully the strength that the peoples have.

At this meeting we have reached this compromise with all political forces, with all governments, with all mass movements, with all organizations, with all workers, with the church, with the youth, with the women, with all existing mass movements. We have pledged to them that the WPC stands with them, and we extend our total support to all initiatives adopted by organizations, forces and political parties aimed at ending the arms race, at avoiding the threat of war and in favor of liberation. We stand with all peace-loving forces, anti-imperialist forces. Imperialism is alive and is trying to divide the peace-loving forces and the anti-imperialist forces.

The anti-imperialist governments, the peace-loving governments by themselves alone cannot bar the road to war. The peace-loving governments and the peoples of the world acting together can and will be able to halt the path to war. That is why we are here. That is why we have been honored here. How can we repay this debt to Cuba for allowing us to be here shoulder to shoulder with the Cuban peoples at this time? Our pledge to Cuba is the following: We will be worthy of the honor that you do to us in allowing us to be here. We will not only take the spirit of Cuba with us to all the continents, to each and every one of them, but there still is more: You can be certain that wherever we are, we will be with Cuba. Let the imperialists remember Playa Giron. Let them remember also the power of the people, who have assured victory after victory and who will assure new victories.

Our conference has been a conference of optimism, of confidence, of planning new victories, of struggle against imperialist aggression, intervention, and conspiracy.

We go now with Cuba's flag of determination and courage to other countries. We will come back to Cuba. Somebody says: How old are you? Well, I say I am getting quite old and many of us are too. But we will return, and if we do not--if we fall somewhere because times goes on--let us understand this. These people, until the last day they worked, have worked for peace, for the best causes of mankind. And if someone does not come again, raise a little flag and say: This was a man of peace. This means that he was a friend of Cuba. [prolonged applause]

FIDEL CASTRO DECORATES WPC'S ROMESH CHANDRA

FL221124 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, in a solemn ceremony held at the Palace of the Revolution prior to the closing session of the WPC presidential meeting, Cuba's President of the Councils of State and Ministers Fidel Castro decorated WPC President Romesh Chandra with the Jose Marti Order, in fulfillment of a resolution of the Cuban Council of Ministers.

REGIONAL PEACE COUNCIL MEETING SCORES U.S. POLICY

PA230230 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] A basic principle upheld during the National Peace Council meeting of Latin American and Caribbean countries this Wednesday in Havana was the necessity to defend peace through decisive action against the warmongers.

Delegates from more than 20 countries of the continent criticized the warmongering policy and massive purchase of war equipment by Latin American dictatorships, and they also denounced U.S. governmental efforts to instigate border conflicts in order to divide the people of the region. The delegates to the meeting also expressed their opposition to any attempt to resume the negotiations for the South Atlantic pact which would unite the armed forces of the countries of the Southern Cone and the forces of the racist regime of South Africa under the control of the United States.

They also reiterated their solidarity with Cuba, Nicaragua, Grenada and other countries of the region which are struggling for their complete independence.

Romesh Chandra, WPC president, said in the speech delivered at the opening session that Latin American progressive forces must brace themselves against imperialist aggression and that everyone must cooperate in the prevention of wars.

Also during the meeting, Volodio Teitelboim, member of the Chilean Communist Party Political Bureau, delivered the funds that Chileans who live in Finland collected for the cause of the Salvadoran people.

SOVIET NAVAL DETACHMENT ARRIVES IN CIENFUEGOS

FL230014 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] The Soviet naval detachment comprised of the antisubmarine ship "Nikolayev", the escort ships "Svirepy" and "Bditelny," and the tanker "Olekma," which are on an official and friendly visit to our country, arrived today in Cienfuegos.

Their crews, represented by Vice Adm Vladimir Samoylov, first deputy commander of the Black Sea Fleet and chief of the detachment, were welcomed by frigate Capt Hector Sanchez from the Central Naval District staff. Afterwards, the Soviet officers met with chiefs and officers of the Central Naval District and with provincial party leaders in Cienfuegos.

BRAZILPLANNING MINISTER NETO TO VISIT SOVIET UNION

PY170330 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] Planning Minister Delfim Neto will travel to the Soviet Union on 6 June heading a delegation of experts and businessmen. This delegation will close deals amounting to \$2 million, most of it to finance construction of hydroelectric plants in the Amazon region. According to information obtained in Brasilia, the Soviets will grant credits on exceptional terms on interest rates and repayment. This will be the first visit of Brazilian businessmen to the Soviet Union for this type of negotiations.

CHILESTRIKE AT EL TENIENTE MINE REPORTED 'CALM'

PY230155 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] (Mario Menares), secretary general of the union [words indistinct] of the El Teniente copper mine, has stated that the legal strike called by the 10,000 workers of the El Teniente mine is being observed in an atmosphere of complete calm.

In a statement to Radio Nacional, (Menares) tonight said that in his reply to a telegram from the workers president, Pinochet announced that he will not intervene in the conflict. (Menares) added that Pinochet's reply was conveyed to them by a note sent by Labor Minister Miguel Castro. The note states that President Pinochet will not mediate in the strike because in so doing he would be taking part in the collective negotiations in violation of the labor laws. (Menares) conveyed the workers' belief that the strike will be long. He made it clear, however, that negotiations are under way to obtain payment of the second wage of the month, that is, a sort of advance. He said that this advance is usually granted at this time of the month, between today and tomorrow. He reported that shows are being organized to help support the workers and their families during the strike.

He concluded by stating that the union leaders have been waiting for the management to call on them to hold talks, but only if it would make a better offer than the one it did during the collective negotiations.

BRIEFS

MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO APPOINTED--President Pinochet yesterday announced that Carmen Grez de Anrique, current national secretary for women's affairs, has been appointed minister without portfolio and charged with setting up the future Ministry of Family Affairs. [Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 11 Apr 81 p 1 PY]

CONTRACT WITH FRENCH FIRM--Paris, 15 Apr (AFP)--The French group Compagnie de Constructions Internationales (CCI) has obtained a \$120 million contract from the Chilean company National Electric Power, Inc to build the Colbun-Machicura hydroelectric project. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1555 GMT 15 Apr 81 PY]

ECUADORGOVERNMENT SUSPENDS PETROLEUM PRODUCTION

PA221856 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1842 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] Quito, 22 Apr (EFE)--Ecuador suspended petroleum production today due to the saturation of its storage system caused by export difficulties.

Official sources told EFE that the saturation led to today's suspension of the transportation of crude from the oilfields in eastern Ecuador to storage tanks in the oil port of Balao on the Pacific coast.

Ecuadorean Natural Resources Minister Cesar Robalino told EFE today that the country has more than 3 million barrels in storage tanks.

Nevertheless, the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation (CEPE) today announced the sale of 354,568 barrels to a U.S. company at \$36 a barrel, and it expressed optimism that the market will improve.

Ecuador, a member of the OPEC, produces an average of 210,000 barrels a day and exports some 110,000 barrels.

The difficulties in the international market have forced Ecuador to reduce the price of its crude from the \$40 a barrel in January to \$35 in the past few weeks.

Minister Robalino said that Ecuador might even be forced to further reduce its prices if the difficulties continue.

GUYANA

LABOR UNION CALLS ON PEOPLE TO DEFEND TERRITORY

PA222132 Paris AFP in Spanish 1915 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] Georgetown, 22 Apr (AFP)--The Manpower Citizen Association [MPCA], the most powerful Guyanese labor union, today made a strong accusation against the Venezuelan Government by calling it "unscrupulous."

In a message to Guyanese President Forbes Burnham, the MPCA called on all Guyanese, regardless of their political affiliation, to prepare themselves to defend their country and to safeguard the territory being claimed by Venezuela.

Venezuela recently reiterated its claim over 150 square km of Guyanese territory less than 36 hours after the presidents of Venezuela and Guyana had met in Caracas on 2 and 3 April.

The MPCA believes that the Venezuelans, worried about the Guyanese accomplishments and development projects in the area, would be willing to make a desperate effort to take over the territory in dispute.

SURINAME

LOCAL CHINESE DENY THEY HAD ROLE IN ABORTED COUP

FL222307 Bridgetown CANA in English 2239 GMT 22 Apr 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 22 Apr (CANA)--The Chinese community here has rejected claims that it offered financial backing to a group of soldiers who allegedly tried to overthrow the military-backed civilian government recently. The denial was made when spokesmen from the community that has family ties with both mainland China and Taiwan met chairman of the powerful National Military Council (NMC), Lieutenant Ivan Graanoogst.

Army sources had said that three Chinese businessmen backed the group that planned the aborted coup.

An NMC statement said the Chinese community disassociated itself from the recent coup attempt and pledged support to the army and government. According to the NMC, the meeting was suggested by the Chinese community. The delegation deemed as "unfounded" reports that Chinese wished to seize power in the country, the NMC said.

The 1976 population count showed 6,400 Chinese in the country in a population of 376,247. More than 90 percent of the Chinese are engaged in business activities, and the professions, particularly medicine and law.

URUGUAY

REAR ADM RODOLFO INVIDIO APPOINTED NAVY COMMANDER

PY230225 Beunos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0045 GMT 23 Apr 81

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Apr (TELAM)--According to official information released here today, Rear Adm Rodolfo Invidio will be appointed navy commander in chief tonight.

The new commander in chief was appointed by the panel of navy officers, which met in utmost secrecy.

Invidio, who will replace Vice Adm Hugo Leon Marquez, will take over his new duties next Tuesday.

BRIEFS

NUCLEAR ACCORD WITH ARGENTINA--Argentina and Uruguay yesterday signed a new nuclear accord which provides for Argentine cooperation in the production of radioisotopes in Uruguay, the training of Uruguayan personnel, advice and support in the assembly and putting into operation of Uruguay's 10-kw reactor. The accord also provides for joint feasibility studies aimed at the installation of a nuclear center in Uruguay.

[Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 14 Mar 81 p 9 PY]

VENEZUELA

MINISTER NOTES CONTINUED OIL DELIVERIES TO CUBA

PA211652 Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 21 Apr 81

[Text] Caracas, 21 Apr (AFP)--Venezuelan Energy Minister Humberto Calderon affirmed here today that Venezuela is continuing to deliver to Cuba 10,000 barrels of oil per day.

"The deliveries of Venezuelan crude to Cuba have never been interrupted and this transaction is part of an agreement reached with the Soviet Union, which delivers the same quantity to our customers in Spain," Calderon noted. The Soviet Union agreed with Venezuela that, to decrease transportation costs, it would deliver crude to Spain while Venezuela would do the same with Cuba.

Venezuela and Cuba have frozen their diplomatic relations, it was recalled here.